

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add Claim 10 as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A solid-state image pickup device comprising:
  - a photoelectric conversion portion, configured to generate signal electric charges in accordance with an amount of incident light, comprising first and second exposure regions;
  - a plurality of color filters comprising:
    - two adjacent color filters in the first exposure region forming a gap therebetween or overlapping each other;
    - two adjacent color filters in the second exposure region forming a gap therebetween or overlapping each other; and
    - a flattening layer formed on said plurality of color filters,
  - wherein a recess is formed on a surface of the flattening layer in the first exposure region in the event the two adjacent color filters in the first exposure region form a gap therebetween,
  - wherein a projection is formed on a surface of the flattening layer in the first exposure region in the event the two adjacent color filters in the first exposure region overlap each other,
  - wherein a recess is formed on a surface of the flattening layer in the second exposure region in the event the two adjacent color filters in the second exposure region form a gap therebetween,
  - wherein a projection is formed on a surface of the flattening layer in the second exposure region in the event the two adjacent color filters in the second exposure region overlap each other,
  - wherein the thickness of the projections and recesses formed on the surface of the flattening layer in the first and second exposure regions is equal to or less than 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

wherein said flattening layer reduces the variation in the amount of incident light reaching the first and second exposure regions arising from differences in the gaps or overlapping of adjacent color filters in the first and second exposure regions.

2. (Original) A solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 1, wherein a thickness of said flattening layer is at least 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$ .

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A solid-state image pickup device comprising:  
a photoelectric conversion portion configured to generate signal electric charges in accordance with an amount of incident light comprising first and second exposure regions;  
a plurality of color filters comprising:  
two adjacent color filters in the first exposure region overlapping each other;  
two adjacent color filters in the second exposure region overlapping each other; and  
a condenser lens, having a shape to cause the incident light to avoid passing through regions of the color filters in which the two adjacent color filters in the first exposure region overlap each other and in which the two adjacent color filters in the second exposure region overlap each other, so as to pass through regions of the color filters having a uniform spectral characteristic, for condensing the incident light onto said photoelectric conversion portion.

5. (Original) A solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 4, wherein said condenser lens has a shape to cause the incident light to pass through a region of a color filter having a uniform thickness.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) A solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 4, further comprising a wiring layer formed between said photoelectric conversion portion and said plurality of color filters, wherein said wiring layer includes a wiring disposed so as not to cross an outermost optical path of the incident light.

8-9. (Canceled)

10. (New) A solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 1, wherein said flattening layer comprises an organic material.